
CHECKLIST & TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPLICANT: Calvert County, Maryland

NAME OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: Calvert County, including Towns of Chesapeake Beach and North

Please review the checklist of attachments and furnish all of the attachments that are applicable.

Contents of the notebook should be tabbed and organized as follows:

- ☐ **TAB #1 Applicant Information**
- ☐ **TAB #2 Sustainable Community Baseline Information - In addition to hard copies of the project location map, a detailed listing of parcels (i.e. Parcel ID Numbers) that form the project boundary should be included. Maps should also be submitted in electronic GIS form (shape file). If you have additional comments or questions, please contact Brad Wolters, Senior GIS Specialist, DHCD, wolters@mdhousing.org.**
- ☐ **TAB #3 Local Capacity to Implement Plans & Projects: Attach Sustainable Communities Workgroup roster noted in Section III**
- ☐ **TAB #4 Sustainable Community Plan**
- ☐ **TAB #5 Progress Measures**
- ☐ **TAB #6 Local Support Resolution**
- ☐ **TAB #7 Signed Sustainable Community Application Disclosure Authorization and Certification**

**All documents on this checklist are mandatory.
Failure to provide the requested document will automatically deny your application.**

I. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Sustainable Community: Calvert County, including Towns of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach

Legal Name of Applicant: Calvert County, Maryland

Federal Identification Number: See Addendum

Street Address: Courthouse, 175 Main Street

City: Prince Frederick **County:** Calvert **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 20678

Phone No: 410-535-1600 **Fax:** 410-535-1787 **Web Address:** www.co.cal.md.us

Sustainable Community Contact For Application Status:

Name: Julie Paluda **Title:** Capital Projects Analyst

Address: 157 Main Street **City:** Prince Frederick **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 20678

Phone No: 410-535-1600 x2286 **Fax:** 410-535-1787 **E-mail:** paludabj@co.cal.md.us

Person to be contacted for Award notification:

Name: Jenny Plummer-Welker **Title:** Principal Planner

Address: 150 Main Street, Suite 304 **City:** Prince Frederick **State:** MD **Zip Code:** 20678

Phone No: 410-535-1600 x2333 **Fax:** **E-mail:** plummej1@co.cal.md.us

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

Through this section, applicants will demonstrate that trends and conditions in homeownership, property values, employment, commercial and residential vacancy, community facilities and infrastructure, natural resources, the local business and residential districts show a need for new or continued revitalization reinvestment. Demographic data and trends provided by Applicants should support the choice of the proposed Sustainable Community Area boundary and help form a basis for needs and opportunities to be addressed through the initiatives and projects described in the Sustainable Community Action Plan (Section IV).

POINTS IN THIS SECTION WILL BE AWARDED BASED ON THE SC AREA'S NEED FOR REINVESTMENT AS EVIDENCED BY THOROUGH DESCRIPTIONS OF CURRENT CONDITIONS OR TRENDS (and will not be based upon current or planned revitalization activities which will be covered in Section IV).

A. Proposed Sustainable Community Area (s):

County: Calvert

Name of Sustainable Community: Calvert County, including Towns of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach

Include boundary descriptions and a map of the Sustainable Community. In addition to hard copies of the of the project location map, a detailed listing of parcels (i.e. Parcel ID Numbers) that form the project boundary should be included. If possible, maps should also be submitted in electronic GIS form (shape file). If you have additional comments or questions, please contact Brad Wolters, Senior GIS Specialist, DHCD, Wolters@MdHousing.org

The area proposed for Sustainable Community designation includes the seven Town Centers (Dunkirk, Owings, Huntingtown, Prince Frederick, St. Leonard, Lusby, and Solomons), the municipalities of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach, and the Priority Funding Areas that have an economic/employment focus (the Employment Center and I-1 Zoning Districts and the Naval Research Lab).

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

Approximate number of acres within the SC Area: _____

Existing federal, state or local designations (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Legacy Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Designated Neighborhood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main Street | <input type="checkbox"/> Maple Street |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Historic District | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register Historic District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A & E District | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Enterprise Zone Special Taxing District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRAC | <input type="checkbox"/> State Designated TOD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other(s): <u>County Credit Enterprise Zone & Southern Maryland Heritage Area (See Addendum)</u> | |

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

Prior Revitalization Investments & Smart Growth:

(a) List and describe any significant State and local smart growth or revitalization related program investments (for instance, Community Legacy or SC Rehab Tax Credit) that have been invested in the Area since the launching of Maryland's Smart Growth initiative and programs in 1997 (including Housing investment). What impact have these investments made in the community? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The State awarded \$749,500 in Community Legacy grants to Calvert County government and North Beach from 2002 to 2011. Since 1997, the State has provided over \$1.5 million in loans and grants through the Neighborhood BusinessWorks program, including over \$1.2 million in loans for businesses located in Chesapeake Beach, North Beach and Prince Frederick, and \$300,000 in grants for projects in Prince Frederick and North Beach.

In 2001, Calvert County received \$250,000 for the exterior restoration of Linden, which is located in Prince Frederick and the headquarters for the Historical Society. Funding was provided to obtain engineering services to develop preliminary site and building plans for the proposed Bayside History and Nature Center to be located on North Beach town property. Also, funding assisted in the replacement of failing sanitary sewer in a commercial area of North Beach (Underground Utilities Project). The new sewer was installed and potential for overflows and backups eliminated. In 2007, Community Legacy funds allowed North Beach to have a parking study completed of the waterfront and commercial areas. It provided the Town with strengths and weaknesses regarding the parking situation; including inventory of existing parking and projected future parking needs. Additional funding allowed the town to make streetscape improvements along Chesapeake Avenue and 7th Street. The improvements included directional signage, which has helped identify and guide pedestrians and day trippers through our commercial area from a central parking area. Park benches and landscaping help encourage pedestrian and bicycle traffic stop and explore the shops and restaurants.

The impediments to Smart Growth for Chesapeake Beach are site constraints such as wetlands, needs of municipal parking, development near wetland and critical area buffers.

MD Department of Natural Resources, Program Open Space (POS) acquires recreation and open space areas for public use. The Program administers funds made available to local communities for open and recreational space through the State real estate transfer tax and from federal programs, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The County has been awarded over \$9 million since 1984, which has resulted in the purchase and development of a majority of the County's parks, museums and other recreational facilities.

State and Federal Transportation Grants:

Rideshare/Commuter Assistance Program – These funds are used to assist in funding the office assistant position within Transportation. The office assistant provides commuters of Calvert County with information and schedules on the twenty-six Commuter buses leaving the county daily for the Washington Metro area.

ADA Program – Funds the ADA demand response service that operates Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and certain holidays. The two buses that handle this route provide transportation for passengers who are unable or do not have access to the fixed route service.

SSTAP (Statewide Special Transportation Assistance Program) and Section 5311 of the Public Transportation Program – These funds are used to assist in funding the County's Transportation System.

Capital Equipment – These funds are used to purchase replacement buses and in some cases, other capital equipment needs such as the recent upgrade to electronic fare boxes.

ARRA Paving Projects – The County was awarded \$1,343,000 in American Recovery Reinvestment Act federal grant monies for highway paving.

Bus Wash & Bus Canopy – The Bus Wash is a precast concrete structure housing an automated vehicle wash system that recycles the water to cut down on waste water and chemical usage. The Bus Canopy is a steel and standing seam roof structure constructed to provide protection to the buses and attendants while providing adequate lighting and electric for winter charging of the buses.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(b) Describe any existing barriers to Smart Growth that may affect your jurisdiction or the proposed SC Area. For instance, does your area have higher development fees than outer “cornfields”?

(Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County – Lack of infrastructure, such as roads and public water, in the Town Centers.

Chesapeake Beach and North Beach – Site constraints such as wetlands, needs of municipal parking, development near wetland and critical area buffers.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

B. Community Conditions: Strengths and Weaknesses

(1) Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the proposed Area's existing built environment. For example, what is the condition of housing? Are there underutilized historic buildings and cultural places? What is the condition and availability of community parks and recreational assets? Are there transportation assets? What is the current condition of community infrastructure such as roads and lighting? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The municipalities of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach are a mix of businesses and residential homes. Where there were once mainly seasonal cottages, most houses have now been converted for year-round use. The trend has been the conversion of small, one-story houses to larger multiple-story single family houses. Both Chesapeake Beach and North Beach have a diversity of housing types from single family to town houses and apartments.

Chesapeake Beach

The Town has adequate public water and sewer capacity to meet current and projected demands through 2030. The Town has a boardwalk, beach, ball fields, railway trail, public library, and the Chesapeake Beach Water Park. The Town is expanding the sidewalk system to make a more walkable community.

Chesapeake Beach's existing housing inventory is in transition. While many of the original small cottage style houses remain, they have aged considerably and are now seen as needing either substantial renovations (due to lack of updated weatherization/energy efficient construction) or are being replaced with multi-level high-priced homes promoting waterfront or bay views. The lot sizes in Chesapeake Beach are small. The area has water and sewer infrastructure but is an environmentally sensitive area. An affordable housing complex called Fishing Creek, built through the efforts of Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee in the mid 1990's, provides townhomes and apartments. During the recent earthquake, many of these units suffered extensive water damage due to the extensive movement of the pilings on which they are built. This movement caused separation of water pipes throughout the complex, and residents were displaced for three months to repair and upgrade the piping to current building code. While the older single family houses are considered "affordable" in terms of purchase and/or rental price, the costs for utilities is considerably higher than in newer homes.

There are two communities still building in the Town, Richfield Station and Chesapeake Village. The Town has several housing projects in the planning stages. These projects will create 138 units single family houses, condominiums, and town houses.

Chesapeake Beach is a typical small town and would like to preserve that small town feel for residents and visitors. The Town's greatest assets are its proximity to the Chesapeake Bay and Fishing Creek, but they are also the Town's greatest weaknesses. This proximity increases the Town's vulnerability to natural hazards, including damage from floods and hurricanes, and the need for developing in environmentally sensitive manner since over 60% of the Town is in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. Visitors are attracted to the new Railway Trail and the Water Park, which is open from May to August. The Town has a thriving charter fishing fleet and natural cliffs that fossil hunters love to explore.

The Town currently operates the Chesapeake Beach Waste Water Treatment Plant. It is the majority partner with North Beach, Calvert County and Anne Arundel County. The Enhanced Nutrient Removal upgrade is at 100% design and will be going out to bid as soon as the Town receives Critical Area approval.

North Beach

The housing stock is split almost 50/50 owner occupied and rentals. The Town has adequate public water and sewer capacity to meet current and projected demands through 2030. Existing sidewalks through the town allow for a walkable community.

Private developers have proposed a mix of townhomes and multi-family housing units along the waterfront area on the three vacant parcels located at the corners of 3rd Street and Bay Avenue.

(Please See Addendum)

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(2) Describe the Area's land use/zoning make-up (residential, commercial, industrial, and mixed-use). Is the current land use or zoning conducive to revitalization investment? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County

The areas proposed for Sustainable Community designation includes the County's seven Town Centers, the two municipalities of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach, and Calvert County's Priority Funding Areas that have an economic/employment focus (the Employment Center and I-1 Zoning Districts and the Naval Research Lab).

The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan includes the policy to promote a broad mix of commercial, office, residential, public and quasi-public developments within Town Centers. The purpose of the Town Center District is "to provide attractive, pleasant and convenient places to live, work, and shop in a town-like setting; to promote strong business growth; to provide an alternative to scattered, strip commercial developments along MD 2, 4, and 2/4; to expand the choice of housing options for all ages and incomes; to reduce dependence on motorized vehicles by providing public transit alternatives and requiring that pedestrian circulation be addressed; to reduce residential growth in agricultural areas; and to provide cultural and recreational amenities serving the entire population" (Article 2-8.08 A, Calvert County Zoning Ordinance). The County's Town Centers are zoned Town Center Districts on the Calvert County Zoning Map. Each of the Town Centers has its own Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The majority of Town Centers are further subdivided into planning areas or districts, which have zoning land use regulations.

The Employment Center District "is intended to best utilize the County labor force by providing areas adjacent to the Town Centers where attractive and appropriately designed office parks, flex space, light manufacturing, warehousing, educational facilities and research and development companies may develop" (Article 2-8.09 A, Calvert County Zoning Ordinance).

The purpose of the County's I-1 Light Industrial District is "to provide available space for light industrial uses, free from other uses which might affect such development. Industrial Parks are encouraged in this District" (Article 2-8.05 A, Calvert County Zoning Ordinance).

Land use in each of the Town Centers varies. Uses typically include commercial, office, residential, and public uses.

The Town Centers, EC, and I-1 zones are conducive to revitalization investment.

Chesapeake Beach

Chesapeake Beach Residential Zoning is divided into five categories. The Residential areas contain 3 districts named to imply their density: Low, Medium, and High. Within these three districts is the oldest housing stock, offering the opportunity for being upgraded by either replacement to larger, taller homes, some to leverage the scenic benefits of their proximity to the waterfront or leaving the cottage-like appearance and making interior and modernization or weatherization improvements. These residential districts offer possibilities for infill on many of the small parcels which are either unused or underutilized.

Additionally, there are two residential districts which allow the mixing in of low impact commercial: Village and Residential Planned Community. The Residential Village district, being a relatively new zoning district is largely untapped, yet offers a variety of housing types and densities with nonresidential uses that are compatible in use, scale, impact and the existing pattern of buildings, streets and blocks. In-home offices offer a potential for the owner/proprietor. The Residential Planned Community (RPC) provides flexibility in planning the community to allow a mixture of housing types, innovative spacing of dwellings and setbacks. Additionally there is an option for a small amount of low impact commercial within a RPC. There are larger open spaces reserved for passive recreation, protection of sensitive environmental or critical habitat areas.

(Please See Addendum)

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

3) Describe strengths and weaknesses in basic features of community quality-of-life. For instance, is crime an issue for this SC Area? What is the condition and quality of educational choices available to the community? Are artistic, cultural, or community resources, events or facilities within or accessible to residents in the proposed SC Area? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County has a very low overall crime rate. Serious crime such as murders, rapes, armed robberies and felony assaults are exceptionally low. Being surrounded on three sides by water provides Calvert County with limited vehicle access which also contributes to a low crime rate. In examining Calvert County's crime rate regarding serious crimes with other jurisdictions of similar population we find that Calvert's number is consistently lower. An example would be robberies in Calvert in 2010 numbered 33; Allegany County had 48, Dorchester County had 56, Washington County had 115, and Wicomico County had 183 robberies. Calvert County had 141 serious assaults in 2010 while Allegany County had 234, Dorchester County had 124, Washington County 306, and Wicomico County had 505 serious assaults. Crime is further deterred in Calvert County by a significant presence of law enforcement. The Calvert County Sheriff's Office has made it a point to virtually eliminate unmarked cars on patrol resulting in greater visibility to citizens. Additionally, our agency has an off duty policy allowing members to use their vehicles while off duty in the county; again increasing visibility. Calvert County also has a significant number of law enforcement officers from other jurisdictions who reside in Calvert County and drive their marked cruisers in the county as well. Another factor is the efficiency of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigations. The national average for case closure of violent crime cleared by arrest or exceptional means in 2010 was 47.2%, while the local closure was at 75.9% for 2010. Calvert County law enforcement also has an excellent response time average of 8 minutes to calls for service, which provides limited time for criminals to complete their crime and escape detection. This adds another layer of security for our citizens. Finally, the fact that Calvert County is the smallest county in Maryland with a relatively low population of approximately 90,000 residents and nearly all of our deputies living in the county provides an opportunity to network with citizens and community leaders providing an additional level of safety and security.

The educational choices in Calvert County are many. There are 13 public elementary, six public middle, four public high schools, and a career and technology academy serving the youngsters of Calvert County. In addition, there are eight schools that provide privately funded education (Pre-K, primary and/or secondary level education, and a children's shelter).

The College of Southern Maryland – Prince Frederick campus is located on Route 231. The second educational building is currently in construction. Also satellite branches of Morgan State University and University of Maryland are located within the borders of Calvert County. Other education facilities include: Adult Education, the Arthur Storer Planetarium, Calvert Country School, and CHESPAX, which is an environmental education program available through the Calvert County Public School system.

The artistic and cultural event facilities include the Mary Harrison Center, Calvert Marine Museum, and Annemarie Sculpture Garden and Arts Center. There are various productions that are performed at the local schools and religious facilities throughout the County.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

C. Natural Resources and Environmental Impact: Strengths and Weaknesses

(1) Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the community's "natural environment." in or near the Sustainable Community Area. What is the current condition of key natural resources - lands, air, water, watersheds, tree canopy, other? If the community is located in a coastal zone, what risks might the community be subject to associated with climate induced sea level rise? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County is located on a peninsula nestled between the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. A ridge runs through the County, dividing the County into two drainage areas – the Patuxent River to the west and the Chesapeake Bay to the east. Agricultural lands are more prevalent within the Patuxent River watershed. Steep cliffs are more prevalent within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The County's biggest natural environmental challenges are its steep slopes and erodible soils. Much of these steep slopes are located in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The Critical Area comprises 17% of the County's land area and provides additional regulatory governance and protection of steep slopes and erodible soils, as well as streams, wetlands and forested areas. Forested areas account for 81,781 acres or 58% of the County's land use, of which 37% is forest interior. These forested areas provide valuable habitat for animals and plants, and natural water quality filters for the County's tributaries of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. The County sits downstream from much more populated areas both within the Patuxent River watershed and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. It is the recipient of downstream run-off, pollution and excess nutrients from upstream. However, through local regulations and policies, in many instances exceeding State requirements, the County's progressive role in keeping its natural environment sustainable is evident. Many of the County's regulations, programs, and policies aimed at preserving its natural environment are discussed in Section IV.A. Additionally, the County's natural environment will continue to benefit from the progress of regional efforts to address water quality and water resources through the Patuxent River Commission and, on a much larger regional scale, through Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(2) Describe the strengths and weaknesses of any current efforts to reduce the community's "carbon footprint" or impact on the environment. Is recycling (commercial or residential) available to minimize waste? Are there current efforts to encourage the purchase and availability of fresh local food and other local products and services to the community? Describe any current energy or water conservation efforts that may be underway. If the community has not implemented one of the above initiatives, has the community identified a need or interest to pursue these or other efforts to reduce environmental impact, for instance through the new Sustainable Maryland Certified initiative? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County routinely exceeds the 1988 Maryland Recycling Act which requires a 15% recycling rate, and has exceeded 25% the last two years. Recycling is available throughout Calvert County by way of seven drop off locations known as Convenience Centers. Commercial recycling is encouraged. The County maintains an internal "Green Team" committee dedicated to recycling, cutting energy costs in all government facilities, and overall education on all related to recycling. The County maintains a direct liaison with local citizens to establish and maintain a "Citizen Green Team." The County Green Expo, in its 4th year, is a result of the County's sponsorship of both Green Teams. Calvert County also supports out of county recycling efforts and tracks this collection by county. The County collects wooded debris and mulches it for return to citizens for their use, and for the first time, purchased two compactor recycling collection vehicles.

A wide range of materials is collected, including plastic, metal, glass, organic debris such as leaves and tree materials, tires, batteries (automotive), oils, and electronics. Household hazardous waste collected includes paints, oils (mixed or unknown), chemicals, and Freon. Medication is recycled through a drop off location controlled by the Sheriff's Office.

The County recognizes several recycling weaknesses, such as the distance to recycling markets is far removed from the county's central collection depot. Commercial recycling is not mandated. The County loses money recycling commercial materials (light bulbs used in tanning salons). There is no public curbside pickup outside the municipalities which limits the potential for increased recycling rates.

Calvert County supports local workshops for the advancement of knowledge as it pertains to sustainable farming. The County supports the sale of locally grown products at various county locations. Calvert County supports local venues, such as Annmarie Sculpture Garden which hosts local farmers and other crafters in the production and sale of goods. The County's Sustainable Agricultural Workgroup presents annual awards for green grocer and sustainable restaurant.

The County's current energy and water conservation efforts have been evolving. The General Services Department, as part of County Green Team efforts, has initiated several energy saving programs, including education on how to save energy, updating electronic control devices such as thermostats, upgrading to more efficient water heaters, and using only the most energy efficient light bulbs. The County has been granted a \$438,000 Empower Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant from the Maryland Energy Administration, Clean Energy Communities Program. The grant will be used to retrofit existing facilities' systems with energy efficient measures.

The Water & Sewerage Department has updated the Calvert County Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan to reflect the need to conserve water, including:

- Educating through word of mouth and notifications during the normal billing cycle
- Installing metering devices on all customer so that actual consumption is known
- Charging more for users that exceed a base rate allowance
- Installing electronic alarms systems throughout the county water and wastewater system to provide advance notice of impending maintenance issues
- The "reuse" of treated wastewater being researched for use throughout all parks

The Planning & Zoning Department/Inspections and Permits Division is constantly staying current with the latest conservation requirements at the local and national level. This includes plumbing fixtures that are designed to be conservers of water and working with local vendors to become LEED Certified.

(Please See Addendum)

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(3) Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the jurisdiction's current stormwater management practices and how these may affect the proposed SC Area. Is redevelopment and retrofitting of infrastructure an issue or opportunity in this SC Area? Stormwater runoff is a significant source of pollution to Maryland's streams and the Chesapeake Bay. Buildings constructed before 1985 have little or no stormwater controls, and development between 1985 and 2010 have some controls. Updated stormwater regulations passed by Maryland's General Assembly in 2010 require that development and redevelopment projects utilize stringent stormwater controls. Sustainable Community Areas may have opportunities for redevelopment practices that can reduce stormwater flows. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

All development within Calvert County since July 1984, including Priority Funding Areas, has been reviewed under and implemented the State regulations for stormwater management in force at the time. Calvert County has updated our stormwater management ordinance to match all new state design requirements in July 1984, June 1996, July 2001 and May 2010. As a result, all development that has taken place since 2001 has implemented water quality treatment best management practices in addition to water quantity attenuation to limit downstream erosion where required, and several projects within priority funding areas are implementing new Environmentally Sensitive Design (ESD) practices that allow for further lowering of runoff from the sites and greater nutrient uptake. In addition to enforcing the most current stormwater management regulations on all projects, Calvert County also conducts routine inspections of stormwater management facilities to ensure that they are in proper working order on the three year cycle from the date of construction required by the State. Moving forward, because Calvert County has been able to limit growth in many areas, future development will be required to meet the new redevelopment statute, or adhere to ESD practices that require runoff characteristics to mimic woods in good condition.

Many of the weaknesses that are evident in our current stormwater management program are a result of planning for the Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP II) for Chesapeake Bay restoration. In order to meet the nutrient and sediment loading reduction targets mandated by MDE, Calvert County will need to retrofit the majority of our current stormwater management facilities, and construct new facilities to treat much of our older commercial and residential sites. Of the stormwater management facilities that we have on record, only 15% provide water quality or ESD treatment. Retrofitting the remainder of these facilities will prove especially difficult in Priority Funding Areas because much of the property is privately held, relatively highly valued, and we currently have neither the regulatory stick, nor the financial carrot available to compel private property owners to upgrade or construct stormwater management facilities. Similarly, Department of Public Works does not currently have the number and composition of staff, nor significant funding required to inspect and execute the over 1,200 new stormwater management projects required to meet our WIP II targets by the 2025 deadline.

Chesapeake Beach

Adopted the Calvert County Stormwater Management Ordinance February, 2004. According to the 2004 Chesapeake Beach Zoning Ordinance, all "Category 1" Site Plans, including commercial and industrial developments, multifamily dwellings, senior housing projects, and attached dwelling units, must undergo a preliminary approval of stormwater management facilities from the Calvert County Department of Public Works indicating that the proposed development complies with the County's Stormwater Management Ordinance.

North Beach

Adopted the Stormwater Management Ordinance in compliance with Stormwater Act of 2010. The Zoning Administrator/Town Engineer and Planning Commission review all permits for compliance. The NPDES five-year permits issued by MDE are maintained by the Public Works Director and Town Engineer for compliance.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

D. Economic Conditions & Access to Opportunity: Strengths and Weaknesses

(1) Describe the jurisdiction's current economic strengths and weaknesses. For example, are there distinct economic drivers in the area or region that will affect access to job opportunities and the progress of the SC Plan? What are the main barriers to the Area's economic competitiveness? What is the current level of broadband access available to serve residents, businesses and public facilities? What efforts are currently in place to increase worker skills and employment? Describe trends in employment rates and business formation.

(Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County's strengths include a diverse small business base supported by solid major employers. There are more than 4,000 businesses in the county and they represent a wide range of industries including health care, technology services, leisure and hospitality, construction, manufacturing and food service, among others. Major employers include Calvert Memorial Hospital, Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, The Arc of Southern Maryland and Asbury Solomons Island.

The county also benefits from a strong presence of public utility companies including Constellation Energy Nuclear Group, Dominion Cove Point LNG, SMECO and Verizon. Public utilities account for 2.5 percent of the county's total tax base. Because of the infrastructure required to support a utility headquarters, it is expected that most, if not all, of these employers will remain in the county. In fact, Constellation and Dominion both have plans to expand their facilities thereby increasing job opportunities as well as the commercial tax base.

Another economic driver for Calvert County is its location and easy access to major metropolitan areas. It offers convenient highway access to the cities of Annapolis, Washington, D.C. and Baltimore to the north and Naval Air Station Patuxent River to the south. The county's only major thoroughfare--Maryland 2/4--provides access to these metropolitan areas. Therefore, traffic patterns and highway access are a concern as the county continues to grow.

Limited land for industrial use is another issue for the county. Several industrial parks are scattered throughout our peninsula and most are at capacity. Recognizing this limitation, the Commissioners set aside a 92-acre area for potential development at the Patuxent Business Park in Lusby.

The backbone for Maryland Broadband access in Calvert County is in the process of being constructed and should be completed in 2013. Lateral connections will extend from the spine to connect 56 anchor institutions, mostly schools, government buildings and emergency facilities. Patuxent Business Park is also broadband-ready.

Historically, unemployment in Calvert County has been low compared to the rest of the country. The current rate is 5.1 percent (national average is 8.3 percent). The county enjoys a highly educated workforce with several major universities within an hour's drive. The College of Southern Maryland also has a local campus. In addition, the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board (see below) works on a regional level to set an agenda for cultivating jobs, placing dislocated workers and increasing overall labor force participation.

Business formation in the county has been steadily rebounding and several businesses in the SC are exploring options for expansion. Through the Department of Economic Development and their resource partners, business owners receive information, support and direction for starting or expanding their business. These channels are promoted through business outreach, e-newsletters, website, press releases and public service announcements.

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(2) Describe the jurisdiction's housing market and access to affordable workforce housing. What are the trends in residential construction (rental and homeownership), homeownership rate, foreclosure rate and, property values. Describe how and whether your jurisdiction's prevailing housing costs - both homeownership and rental - are affordable to households below 120% AMI, 80% AMI and 50% AMI. What efforts are in place currently to house individuals, families and the disabled at or below the AMI levels described above? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Chesapeake Beach

Chesapeake Beach's housing market is diverse. The County's overall home ownership rate is approximately 84%; the Town's rate is 70.1% owner occupied, 20.6% renter occupied, and 9.3% vacant. The town is not categorized as a foreclosure "hot spot" by the Department of Housing and Community Development, property values have decreased in proportion to the current market trends. Calvert County's overall Average Median Income (AMI) is \$103,000 per household; median sales price of homes in Chesapeake Beach is \$265,000; median rental price is \$1,625. Housing, both rental and purchase, as available, is "affordable" to 120% AMI; rental only is affordable to 80% AMI, and neither rental nor purchase is affordable to 50% AMI.

With very little land left to develop housing, and increasing environmental restrictions, promoting access to quality affordable housing will require attention to updating existing older homes rather than replacing with new construction, or promoting new construction of multi-family units on individual lots. Currently, there are no plans to annex land into Chesapeake Beach.

North Beach

North Beach's housing market is diverse. The ratio of rentals to ownership is higher in North Beach: owner occupied is 49.3% and renter occupied is 50.7%. North Beach is not categorized as a foreclosure "hot spot" by the Department of Housing and Community Development, property values have decreased in proportion to the current market trends. Median sales price of homes in North Beach is \$210,000; median rental price is \$1,625. Housing, both rental and purchase, as available, is affordable to 120% AMI; rental only is affordable to 80% AMI, and neither rental nor purchase is affordable to 50% AMI.

With very little land left to develop housing, and increasing environmental restrictions, promoting access to quality affordable housing will require attention to updating existing older homes rather than replacing with new construction, or promoting new construction of multi-family units on individual lots.

Dunkirk Town Center: Few multi-family rental units, mostly single family homes. Median Sales price is \$320,000; median rental price is \$1,850. Purchase or rental limited to 120% AMI for affordability. 80% and 50% AMI cannot afford either purchase or rental in current market.

Owings Town Center: Median sales price is \$315,000; median rental price is \$1,500. Affordable for purchase and rental at 120% AMI and 80% AMI as inventory permits. Not affordable for either purchase or rental at 50% AMI.

Huntingtown Town Center: Few multi-family rental units; mostly single family homes. Median sales price is \$435,000; median rental price is \$2,300. Purchase or rental limited to 120% AMI or above for affordability.

Prince Frederick: Median sales price is \$364,000; median rental price is \$1,900. Affordable for purchase or rental at 120% AMI; not affordable for either rental or purchase at 80% and 50% AMI. Current inventory of affordable housing is subsidized by the Rental Assistance Voucher program through the Calvert County Housing Authority. The wait list is closed, and there are no new vouchers.

Saint Leonard: Median sales price is \$259,950; median rental price is \$1,500. Limited availability of housing units; affordable for purchase or rental at 120% AMI and 80% AMI based on inventory; no affordable purchase or rental at 50% AMI.

Lusby Town Center: Median sales price is \$215,600; median rental price is \$1,500. Affordable for purchase and rental at 120% AMI, 80% AMI as inventory permits. Not affordable for rental at 50% AMI, but potentially purchase depending on down payment amount. Broad diversity of single family housing options; limited multi-family rental options. Lower priced housing available in communities of CRE, White Sands, Drum Point, majority of housing built between 1970 and 2005. (Please See Addendum)

II. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASELINE INFORMATION

(3) Describe the SC Area's demographic trends (with respect to age, race, household size, household income, educational attainment, or other relevant factors). (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

In 2010, Calvert County's population was 88,737. This is a 19 percent increase of the County's 2000 population of 74,563. The County's growth rate slowed this decade as compared to the previous two decades. Calvert's population grew 48 percent between 1980 and 1990, and 45 percent between 1990 and 2000: Calvert was the fastest growing or the second fastest county in the state during these two decades.

In 2010, the County's population included 29 percent under the age of 20, 60 percent between the ages 20 and 64, and 11 percent age 65 and older. The county's age composition shifted slightly to the older categories. In 2000, 32 percent of the population was under the age of 20, 59 percent between the ages of 20 and 64, and 9 percent age 65 and over.

The County's population is composed of 81% white, only, and 13% black or African American, only. About 3% of the population is people of other races, only, and 3% is people of two or more races. Calvert County's average household size in 2010 was 2.85 persons.

Calvert County has a highly educated population. For residents age 25 years and over, 33% have a high school diploma or GED/alterative credential and 36% have an associate's degree or higher, bachelor's, master's or doctorate degrees.

Calvert County's median household income for 2010 was \$88,862 (source: U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey).

Chesapeake Beach: As of the 2010 Census, there were 5,753 people, 2,134 households, and 1,520 families residing in the town. The racial makeup was 85% White, 10% African American, 0.006% Native American, 0.013% Asian, 0.006% from other races, and 0.0003% from Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 0.03% of the population. There were 2,134 households out of which there were 1,520 families and 43% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 51% were married couples living together, 15% had a female householder with no husband present, and of the 1,520 families 24% householder age 65 and over. The average household size in Town is 2.70.

North Beach

As of the 2010 Census, there were 1,978 people, 911 households, and 466 families residing in the town. The population density was 5,369.1 people per square mile. There were 911 housing units at an average density of 2,556.0 per square mile. The racial makeup of the town was 82% White, 10% African American, 0.003% Native American, 0.008% Asian, 0.01% from other races, and .04% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 0.03% of the population.

There were 911 households out of which there were 466 families and 54% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 27% were married couples living together, 21% had a female householder with no husband present, and of the 466 families 39% householder age 65 and over. The average size of owner occupied home was 2.36 and average size of a renter occupied home was 1.98.

III. LOCAL CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT PLANS & PROJECTS

A. Organizational Structure:

Describe the Applicant's organizational structure. Specifically, which organizations are members in the Sustainable Communities Workgroup and who are the respective staff? Who are the leaders, and how will the Workgroup advisor or staff manage implementation of the SC Area Plan? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The organization of Calvert County Sustainable Community Workgroup is:

Internal Group

- Jenny Plummer-Welker, Principal Planner, Planning and Zoning
- Julie Paluda, Capital Projects Analyst, Finance & Budget
- Douglass Alves, Jr., Director, Calvert County Marine Museum,
- Joyce Baki, Tourism Program Specialist, Economic Development
- Kirsti Uunila, Historic Preservation Specialist, Planning & Zoning
- Mark Willis, Deputy Director, Public Works
- Wilson Cochran, Project Manager, Town of Chesapeake Beach
- Joanne Hunt, Treasurer, Town of Chesapeake Beach

Requested Participation from: Division Chief, Natural Resources; Division Chief, Parks & Recreation; Assistant Sheriff, Sheriff's Office; Director, Community Resources; Director, Public Works; Director, Economic Development; and Principal Planner –Transportation, Planning and Zoning

External Group

- Calvert County Public Schools, George Leah, Director of School Construction
- Calvert County Historical Society, Leila Boyer, Office Manager and Research Historian
- Calvert Public Library, Patricia Hofmann, Director of Calvert Public Libraries and Marcia Hammett, Branch Manager, Prince Frederick (alternate)
- Chesapeake Current / Chesapeake Bay Tripper
- Housing Authority of Calvert County, Wayne Boyle, Executive Director
- League of Women's Voters, Lynn Hill, Member
- Lusby Architectural Review Committee, Barbara H. Fringer, Member
- Saint Leonard Architectural Review Committee, Fredric Dellinger, Member
- Saint Leonard Vision Group, Tammy Grover, President
- Solomons Civic Association, Don Mueller, President

The Town of Chesapeake Beach's Mayor, Bruce Wahl, is a founding Mayor for the Sustainable Maryland Certified Program run through the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland. The program strives to "preserve our civilization and the things we hold dear in perpetuity while enhancing our quality of life." At its November council meeting the Town Council passed a resolution to pursue Sustainable Maryland Certification and appointed Wilson Cochran as the staff liaison to the program. Mr. Cochran completed the necessary paperwork and the Town of Chesapeake Beach became one of the first twenty municipalities in the state to be officially registered. The Town formed a "Green Team", which recommends which projects will be included in the program that the Town should undertake in order to obtain certification.

The Towns of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach passed resolutions to pursue Sustainable Community designation on February 16, 2012 and March 8, 2012, respectively. These resolutions are attached to the application. Chesapeake Beach's staff liaison is Wilson Cochran. North Beach's staff liaison is Joanne Hunt, Treasurer.

III. LOCAL CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT PLANS & PROJECTS

B. Organizational Experience:

Describe the Applicant organization's past experience in administering revitalization plans and projects.

Describe the roles of the members of the Sustainable Communities Workgroup, including their experience in implementing revitalization initiatives. What are the strengths and challenges of the capacity of these groups with respect to implementation of the SC Plan? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The Workgroup coordination is being co-coordinated by Jenny Plummer-Welker, Principal Planner and Julie Paluda, Capital Projects Analyst. Ms. Plummer-Welker has 18 years of experience administering numerous County planning initiatives including the development and updates of the Comprehensive Plan and the Town Center Master Plans.

The County's Capital Projects Analyst, Ms. Paluda, has been in her current position for a little over a year. She is coordinating the funding for the County's \$217 million 6-year capital project budget. She works with the various County departments to coordinate, plan and fund larger infrastructure projects. Ms. Paluda has 15+ years experience in the real estate and development industries; and has completed several study hours of training and education in these fields.

Patricia Hofmann, Director of Calvert County Public Libraries, has a lot of experience administering long range plans. The Library has a lot of experience gathering groups of people together for many reasons, all help to sustain our Community. The Calvert County library consortium is made up of four locations and each branch is a gathering place for the community. Libraries invite people to gather for special classes and events where people learn, have a good time, and often make connections with each other.

Our Tourism Director, Joyce Baki, has worked in the tourism industry for 38 years. Her career has included working for the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Hagerstown, Washington County CVB, Annapolis & Anne Arundel County CVB and the Calvert County Government's Department of Economic Development. In Maryland one out of 17 jobs is a tourism job. Tourism benefits small businesses, 97% of tourism businesses in Maryland are considered small businesses. Tourism is a vital component of economic development for several reasons. It is a strong economic generator providing jobs and tax revenues. Calvert County in FY 2011 collected \$2,956,807 in sales taxes from businesses that are considered tourism related by the Tourism Promotion Act. Tourism also adds to the quality of life of the county through the preservation of our natural resources and heritage areas. Her job includes development of tourism related businesses and events. As a member of the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium, my major commitment is to develop and sustain our history and heritage. Calvert County is part of several heritage trails including the Star Spangled Banner Trail, a national byway. Our office works with business owners and event planners to develop sound practices allowing them to grow.

III. LOCAL CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT PLANS & PROJECTS**C. Public Input:**

How did residents and other stakeholders in the community provide input to Action Plan described below in Section IV? *(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

Held a Stakeholder's Meeting on January 23, 2012.

Presented to the Rotary Club on February 13, 2012

Presented to the Chesapeake Town Council on February 16, 2012

Presented to the North Beach Town Council on March 8, 2012.

Presented to the Board of County Commissioners on March 13, 2012.

Presented to the Calvert County Planning Commission on January 25, February 15, and March 21, 2012.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

The Sustainable Community Action Plan (SC Plan or Plan) is meant to be a multi-year investment strategy - a strategic set of revitalization initiatives and projects that local partners believe will increase the economic vitality and livability of their community, increased prosperity for local households and improved health of the surrounding environment. The Plan should be flexible enough to be updated regularly and renewed every five years as the community envisions new goals. The priority initiatives and projects in the SC Plan should improve the livability of community places -- residential, commercial, or other public or private properties - and create new work, retail, recreational and housing opportunities for residents. These projects should also reduce the environmental impact of the community through water and energy resource conservation and management strategies. In this way, the Plan can be a road map for local stakeholders as well as State agencies to work together to create a more a sustainable and livable community.

A. Supporting existing communities & reducing environmental impacts.

(1) A community's approach to Smart Growth generally includes two inter-related areas of focus: encouraging reinvestment and growth in existing communities; and, discouraging growth that degrades natural resources, and farms and rural landscapes. Broadly describe your jurisdiction's Smart Growth approach and any significant accomplishments made over the last decade or so. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan (adopted 2004, amended 2010) sets forth ten visions, including "Our landscape is dominated by forests and fields" and "Our Town Centers area attractive, convenient, and interesting places to live, work and shop" (Page iv). Calvert County government's decision-making is guided by policies of directing growth to Town Centers and preserving the rural character, prime farmland, contiguous forests, historic resources, and environmentally sensitive areas. The County has an internationally known agricultural preservation program. As of 2010, 27,585 acres of land has been preserved. This amount brings the County to 69% towards its goal of preserving 40,000 acres.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) Describe any major investments in community infrastructure -water, stormwater, sewer, sidewalk, lighting, etc. -- that must be undertaken in order to improve the readiness or competitiveness of the proposed SC Area for private investment and compliance (if applicable) with TMDL regulations. Addressing the stormwater during redevelopment can reduce the pollution entering our streams and contribution to the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Investments in infrastructure, generally, can be an important catalyst for new private investment in the community. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Master Plan Projects:

- Water and wastewater master plans were developed by the Division Water & Sewerage and a private consultant to determine necessary upgrades to various systems in Calvert County. The intent was to improve upon existing capacity, identify the need for future capacity, and overall, increase the likelihood that the Division of Water & Sewerage can support future growth within town center. Examples of two recent master plans (January 2012) are:

Prince Frederick Water and Wastewater Master Plan

Solomons Island Water and Wastewater Master Plan

Water Projects:

- East Prince Frederick Tower and Well project is designed to provide increased capacity and redundancy.
- Costley Way water line is under construction and will provide additional water support to various existing business' and provide for extended infrastructure for future business'. The new infrastructure will allow for increased fire suppression, which in turn, allows for business' needing this service to build.
- St. Leonard Well and Elevated Tower is a project that will ensure the County stays within it permit to withdraw water from the aquifer. This additional well and tower will also allow for increased business capacity within town center.
- The Patuxent Business well and tower project was designed to support the Patuxent Business Park.

Sewerage Projects:

- Lusby Parallel Force Main is designed to provide increased capacity flow to the Solomon's Treatment Facility. This in turn will allow for increased capacity for additional growth in the Lusby and Solomon's town centers.
- Dowell Road WWPS Upgrade will improve the overall capacity of the existing infrastructure allowing for better service to existing business' and residents as well as provide increased capabilities for future growth.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) Describe policies, initiatives or projects that the community will undertake or expand in order to reduce the SC Area's impact on the environment. Examples include but are not limited to: conservation or management of stormwater through retrofitting of streets and by-ways (Green Streets, rain gardens, etc.); retrofitting of facilities and homes for energy conservation; implementation of "green" building codes and mixed-use zoning; recycling of waste; clean-ups of watersheds; and, encouragement of "Buy Local" approaches that benefit local suppliers and food producers. A comprehensive menu of such actions may be found through the nonprofit Sustainable Maryland Certified initiative. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Town Centers: Town centers are the County's primary designated growth areas and Priority Funding Areas, which emphasize more compact development patterns and the reduction of land consumption. Zoning within a one-mile radius of Town Centers permits higher density with the purchase of TDRs.

Agricultural Preservation Districts (APD) and Transferable Development Rights: The APD is a 5-year commitment by a landowner not to develop land, which entitles the land owner for a 100% county tax credit. After 5 years, if a landowner withdraws from the APD and has not sold TDRs, the APD may be terminated after a 1-year's notice. The landowner may sell their TDRs to another party in order for the other party to increase housing density in a TDR receiving area or meet Forest Conservation Requirements. Each TDR converted to a Forest Conservation TDR protects one acre of forest. Approximately 19% of the County's acreage has been permanently preserved through the County and State agricultural preservation programs: Calvert County's TDR program and the State's Rural Legacy and Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation programs.

Critical Area Program, Forest Conservation Program and the Tree Ordinance: Forest covers 81,781 acres or 58% of the County. The County's goal is to retain 90% of existing forestland. Forest interior represents 37% of forest cover, of which 44% is protected. Regulatory approaches can protect an additional 11% and include the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program, the Forest Conservation Program, and the TDR and APD Programs. Important to note, the County achieved 100% replacement of forest in the Critical Area since 1989 using Critical Area fees-in-lieu (FIL) and the Forest Conservation Program FIL. The Forest Conservation Program generally applies to land disturbance of 40,000 square feet or more and conserves forest lands and priority areas within and/or adjacent to protected forests. Priority areas include steep slopes (>25%), wetlands and streams their buffers, floodplains and erodible soils. The County requires 50' wetland and stream buffers, and the expansion of stream buffers to include contiguous steep slopes, which exceed state standards. The County conducted tree surveys in the Solomons Town Center and Huntingtown Town Center which provided the ecological value of trees and the functions they perform. The Solomons Town Center tree survey resulted in the adoption of a Tree Ordinance and a 40% tree canopy goal. Other town centers are anticipated to follow suit.

Floodplain Management: The County adopted a Flood Management Plan and updated its floodplain regulations to meet the new FEMA and MEMA requirements. The County exceeded the requirements by requiring 2' of freeboard countywide and 3' in the Solomons Town Center.

Cliff Protection: The County adopted regulations governing cliffs and shorelines on the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and their tidal tributaries. The cliff areas are separated into three categories: Category 1, undeveloped areas with significant preservation needs; Category 2, developed areas with significant preservation needs; and Category 3, remaining cliff areas along tidal waters. An Environmental Commission and Cliff Stabilization Advisory Committee advises the County on environmental issues.

(Please See Addendum)

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(4) Which community groups or stakeholders will be key to the implementation of the initiatives and projects noted in this section? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County Departments of Planning & Zoning and Public Works, Calvert County Planning Commission, and Calvert County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

B. Valuing communities and neighborhoods -- building upon assets and building in amenities:

(1) What are the key assets that exist in the community upon which the Plan's projects and initiatives will build? Assets may include physical assets such as parks and historic structures and also civic and economic assets such as employers, educational institutions, and cultural organizations and activities. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Refer to Section II B for a list of community parks and recreation assets within the proposed Sustainable Community Area. Three of the Calvert County's four libraries are located with the proposed Sustainable Community Area: Calvert Library in Prince Frederick, Twin Beaches Branch in Chesapeake Beach, and Southern Branch in the Lusby Town Center. The Southern Branch will be relocating temporarily to the Solomons Town Center, where the County has a 10-year lease, to allow expansion of recreation and senior programs at the Southern Community Center.

Key historical assets that are owned or managed by the County or municipal governments and located within the proposed Sustainable Community Area are listed below.

Town of Chesapeake Beach: Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum, owned by Rod & Reel, Inc., is covered by a State Easement and operated under the aegis of Calvert County government.

Town of North Beach: The Bayside History Museum is currently located in a classic example of a 'Flying Dutchman' Colonial Revival House that was rehabilitated by the Town of North Beach and reused as a local history museum. The long term plan is to relocate the museum to a County-owned building located at 4025 4th Street. The Town of North Beach and Calvert County are in the process of entering into a long term lease agreement that will benefit the Bayside History Museum by providing a building that has additional square footage and is ADA accessible; whereas the current location is limited in size and accessibility.

Prince Frederick Town Center: Linden, the headquarters of the Calvert County Historical Society and recipient of Community Legacy grants; the Phillips House, located in King Memorial Park; the Calvert County Courthouse; Calvert House, the former Calvert Hospital and the present headquarters of the Sheriff's Office; the Duke Room, this private library was established in 1912 and the building donated to the public in 1959, it is a component of the Community Resources Building; and Central School, a Rosenwald School completed in 1922, restored by Calvert County government.

St. Leonard Town Center: St. Leonard Polling House, located in a one-acre park.

Solomons Town Center: Calvert Marine Museum's campus includes the Drum Point Lighthouse and many historic boats, including the Wm. B. Tennison, a log bug-eye buy-boat and the only Coast Guard licensed log hulled vessel in the United States; and the Lore Oyster House, a designated National Historic Landmark.

Educational institutions within the proposed Sustainable Community Area include Beach Elementary School in Chesapeake Beach; Hunting Creek Annex in Huntingtown; Calvert Elementary, Calvert Middle, Calvert High School, and Calvert Career and Technology Center located in the Prince Frederick Town Center; the College of Southern Maryland, located in the Employment Center zone west of the Prince Frederick Town Center; and Mill Creek Middle, located in the Employment Center zone in south of the Lusby Town Center.

The Calvert Arts Council is located within the Prince Frederick Town Center. Annmarie Sculpture Garden and Art Center is located in Solomons.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) What policies, initiatives or projects will reuse or enhance the historical assets, traditional business districts/Main Streets and cultural resources of the community? What actions will reinforce your community's authentic "sense of place" and historic character? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The County's policies of directing growth to Town Centers and preserving the rural character, prime farmland, contiguous forests, historic resources, and environmentally sensitive areas help to ensure that Calvert's traditional business districts are not abandoned for highway development scattered along 35 miles of Maryland 4.

The County strives to retain its sense of place through architectural review within the Town Centers and the Employment Center Districts adjacent to Town Centers. Each of the Town Centers has an architectural review committee composed of five citizens appointed by the County Commissioners. The committee composition includes at least one member: who has experience in architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation, urban design, planning, engineering or related fields; who owns a business within the Town Center; and who is a resident not connected with a business within the Town Center.

The Calvert County Historic District Commission (HDC) serves as a citizen review board on matters concerning historic preservation within Calvert County. The seven members, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, have knowledge, training and special interest in historic preservation. Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland establishes the authority of the HDC to function as an advisory and decision-making body. In its advisory capacity, the HDC is required to make recommendations to the County Commissioners concerning the designation of sites as Historic Districts and applications for County tax credits for restoration work on structures in Historic Districts. In its decision-making capacity, the HDC reviews and approves petitions and building permits for alteration, repair, moving or demolition of structures and for ground-disturbing activities within designated Historic Districts. The HDC also reviews subdivision and site plan applications which may impact Historic Districts.

Several of the Town Center zoning ordinances include provisions that when a building which is listed on the Maryland Historical Trust's Historic Sites Survey is located within the boundaries of a proposed development project, the applicant shall meet with the HDC prior to the approval of a site plan or subdivision plat. The meeting is to determine the feasibility of retaining the building and incorporating it into the site design. If it is not feasible to retain the building or make it available for removal to another site, the applicant must document the building prior to its destruction.

The North Beach Historic Preservation Commission's purpose is to preserve and enhance the rural historical and cultural heritage of the Town by preserving sites, structures, districts or landmarks of local significance which reflect elements of cultural, social, economic, political, archeological or architectural heritage; to strengthen the local economy; to stabilize and improve property values of such sites, structures or districts; to foster civic beauty; and to promote the preservation and appreciation of such sites, structures and districts for the education and welfare of the residents of the Town through preservation, education and outreach activities.

The Southern Maryland Heritage Area is state certified area composed of clusters and corridors within the three Southern Maryland counties of Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's. The mission of the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium is to enhance the economic activity of Southern Maryland through combining quality heritage tourism and small business development with preservation, cultural & natural resource conservation and education. The Consortium helps with the application and approval of state-funded grants and the Consortium's mini-grant program. Within Calvert County, the Heritage Area includes the municipalities of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach, and the Town Centers of Prince Frederick, Lusby, and Solomons.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) Describe policies, initiatives or projects that will increase community access to green spaces, parks and other amenities? A community can gain social and physical benefits from access to a healthy natural environment. The inclusion of complete streets, trails, green space, parks and trees contribute to the character and health of a community. Examples might include improvements to the tree canopy by planting street trees, improving local neighborhood streams, or reusing a vacant lot for a new community park or playground.*(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

Calvert County's adopted standard is to provide 30 acres of recreational open space per 1000 population. The County's policies are described in the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan and in the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation (LPP&R) Plan. The most recent LPP&R Plan was adopted in 2006. The 2020 goal is for 2,880 acres. The County and municipalities need to acquire approximately 990 acres in order to meet the 30 acre standard. Each year, the County and municipalities prepare a Program Open Space Annual Program, which identifies specific projects. The County collects a recreation excise tax for each new dwelling unit permitted. The excise tax is used for land acquisition and park development.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(4) Which community groups or stakeholders will be key to the implementation of the initiatives and projects noted in this section? *(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

Key groups and stakeholders instrumental in implementation of this section include Calvert County Parks and Recreation Board, Calvert County Historic District Commission, Calvert County Planning Commission, Calvert County Parks and Recreation Division, Calvert County Natural Resources Division, Chesapeake Beach Planning Commission, North Beach Planning Commission, Calvert County Public Schools, Board of County Commissioners, Chesapeake Beach Mayor and Town Council, and North Beach Mayor and Town Council.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

C. Enhancing economic competitiveness

(1) What economic development policies, initiatives or projects will improve the economy through investments in small businesses and other key employment sectors? What economic development and business incentives will you build upon or implement as part of the SC Plan? Examples could include but are not limited to: green-taping for expedited project application review; permitting and inspection; job training; business tax credits; and, revolving loan funds. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County's Department of Economic Development offers economic development activities in support of the local business community. The priority is to contribute to their success by performing outreach and offering services to new and existing businesses. These services include online commercial property listings, online business resource guide, confidential in-house counseling, online business directory, online employment classifieds, marketing assistance, an ombudsman program, training and educational seminars/workshops and networking events. Fast track permitting is also available to qualified projects. This program provides an accelerated development review process to reduce the turnaround time in the county's development approval process, and qualified projects receive the highest priority from county staff.

In addition, Calvert County also administers an array of incentive programs. One is the Calvert County Economic Development Loan Fund (CEDLF). The CEDLF is a revolving loan that provides an alternative funding source for business expansion in Calvert County. Selected business start-ups may be eligible and assistance in preparing a business plan is available. The loan amount ranges from \$2,500 to \$100,000.

The other program is the Economic Development Incentive Fund (the Fund) for companies looking to expand or locate their facility in Calvert. The Fund, provided by the Board of County Commissioners, is available to qualifying companies that can show significant economic impact within the county's business community and can demonstrate that they are within the county's specific target industries. The interested party should be able to demonstrate that they are establishing new operations or facilities within the county or plan to significantly expand existing operations.

The county has a strategic partnership with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to bring local entrepreneurs the business assistance they need. The SBDC offers free, one-on-one confidential counseling for business owners who seek advice on business plans, certifications, loan packaging and strategic planning. Calvert County has an SBDC business counselor co-located with the Department of Economic Development to offer one-stop assistance.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) What workforce development policies, initiatives or projects will increase access to jobs and economic opportunity for residents in the SC Area? Do you have a goal for job creation? Are green jobs an opportunity in the jurisdiction or SC Area? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Although there is no specific goal for the number of jobs to be created, Calvert County has developed several initiatives to support economic activity and job creation in the SC area. These include the incentives mentioned above, such as the CEDLF as well as the Fund. Both programs, especially the latter, are tied to job creation goals. The Department of Economic Development also maintains a free job classifieds section on its website (www.ecalvert.com) for employers and job seekers and also organizes several free workshops throughout the year for Calvert County companies on issues related to the operation of a business such as marketing strategies, financing, strategic planning. In addition, the county works closely with Maryland's Department of Business & Economic Development to offer job creation tax credits for any new or expanding businesses that qualify.

The public and private sector from Calvert County are represented and are very active in the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board (WIB). The WIB's mission is to provide Southern Maryland's economy with a labor force that meets employer needs for diversified skills across the wage spectrum by aligning labor demand and supply. The WIB aggressively and productively marshals federal, state and local workforce development resources that are utilized for programs to address employer and job seeker needs throughout the region. This includes the One-Stop operation, known as Southern Maryland JobSource, that simplifies access to workforce-related services. With a satellite location in Calvert County, numerous services can be delivered in the SC area. These include: business services, employee training scholarships, skill assessment, employment information, resume writing, interview skills and occupational job training. The Calvert County Department of Economic Development, Southern Maryland JobSource and the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce also partner on an annual job fair that draws up to 500 attendees from the local area. In 2011, the Calvert County Job Fair featured the brand-new Mobile Career Center, a motor vehicle outfitted with 11 computer stations and satellite capability that is used for job training and workshops as well as job recruitment and placement.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) Describe whether the Sustainable Community will be impacted by the Base Re-alignment and Closure (BRAC) activities in Maryland. If impacted, how do the initiatives and projects in your Plan complement BRAC-related growth? (If not applicable, all ten points will be assessed based on answers to questions 1, 2, and 4) (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The SC benefitted greatly from previous BRAC activities that impacted the Naval Air Station Patuxent River in St. Mary's County. The 1993 and 1995 BRACs brought 18,000 personnel to the base and growth continued in the early 2000s. Many of the newcomers to the area settled in Calvert County which borders St. Mary's County and provides an easy commute. More BRACs are scheduled for 2013 and 2015, and we are closely monitoring the plans for any possible impact to the SC. To date, nothing definitive has been announced.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(4) Which community groups or stakeholders will be key to the implementation of the initiatives and projects noted in this section? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The following will be key to the implementation of the above initiatives and projects: Calvert County Department of Economic Development; the Small Business Development Center; the Calvert County Economic Development Commission; the Calvert County Economic Development Authority; the College of Southern Maryland; the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board; the Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development; and Pax Partnership.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

D. Promoting access to quality affordable housing.

(1) What housing policies, initiatives or projects will expand housing choices - rental and homeownership -- for people of a range of ages, incomes, and also for disabled individuals? How will these actions address the current housing conditions and needs noted in Section II? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

As described in Section II, the County overall has a need for increased inventory of housing in all areas of affordability up to 80% of AMI, more so in the area of rentals. While some softening of the market due to the decline in housing prices has provided opportunities for homeownership for households with 60-80% of AMI, the inventory remains minimal in that price range, the required credit scores, condition of the houses, and high down-payment requirements make purchase extremely difficult for any demographic other than investors. We have had some success through partnering with DHCD in the House Keys 4 Employees Program, whereby the County has provided a \$5,000 grant to match state funds for CDA mortgages. Through this program, 28 income eligible families have become first-time homebuyers in the last five years.

For many years, Calvert County incentivized (for developers) the construction of affordable housing through a process that allowed the Board of County Commissioners to waive Transferrable Development Rights (TDRs) purchase requirements for density to the extent that the waiver produced an overall benefit to the community. This program (TDR waiver) has come to a standstill due to the current housing market decline. The market decline has also created an excess of agricultural property owners holding TDR rights to sell, with no buyers. This has created the unintended effect that use of the TDR waiver program could further devalue transfer development rights, since supply already exceeds demand. Developers have attempted to work within the current conditions over the past two years, with the hope that full or partial TDR waivers, in conjunction with state low income tax credit program funding and other low interest private or public financing, would create a scenario that would be financially feasible. Federal and State funding limitations, combined with increased competition for these sources of lower cost financing, have caused several developers to abandon plans to build affordable housing.

The most pressing demand is the need for quality, affordable multi-family rentals. Without changes in the existing zoning regulations and a reworking of the TDR program, plans for expanded affordable housing remain at a standstill. (It should be noted that a considerable obstacle to increasing the number of rental units is the lack of existing apartments and rental housing that could be revitalized. A significant portion of Calvert County's housing inventory is single-family homes (@85%).

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) Will these housing initiatives or projects increase access to transit or community walkability and/or decrease transportation costs? In other words, will the housing investments result in more people living near work or town centers, or able to more conveniently reach work, school, shopping and/or recreation?*(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

Because infrastructure (water or water & sewer) for affordable housing is available in the municipalities and in some of the Town Centers, there is a natural synergy for transit and walkability. Housing in the Prince Frederick area provides easy access to commuter bus service, which would expand the employment opportunities of citizens by providing transportation to the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) What is your goal for of number of units to be created of affordable workforce housing, rental and homeownership? What populations (by income or special needs) will benefit from this increased access to affordable housing? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County's focus in the past few years has been on defining the demand and feasibility of workforce housing, for those citizens whose employment and wages fall within the 60-80% AMI. As described in previous question, however, public-private partnerships to address this demographic have not been able to overcome the formidable financing (for developers) and budgetary (county revenue) issues that remain. Since the location of multi-family rentals would be restricted to town centers with infrastructure, the number of units to be created would be impacted by land usage (commercial vs. residential). At a minimum, there would be a need for a moderately-sized (50-100 units) quality workforce housing development in Prince Frederick.

Affordable senior housing (which includes disabled) was a focus for much of the 1990's and early 2000's, with units built in all three districts of the county. These senior-specific housing developments were financed primarily through a combination of local and state funds, with ongoing subsidized rentals and utilization of rental assistance vouchers (Section 8). Although there is an existing inventory of senior housing, it is always completely utilized. We project that the aging of the current population and the influx of parents of current residents will create additional demand, mostly in the 40-60% AMI range of rental units. These units would also be located in a town center.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(4) Which community groups or stakeholders will be key to the implementation of the initiatives and projects noted in this section? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

County Government (review and revise current workforce housing incentives)

- Planning and Zoning (review and revise areas of zoning ordinances that create obstacles to multi-family housing in town centers)
- Housing Authority
- Local non-profits such as Habitat for Humanity
- Financing sources such as banks (on local level) and Federal/State government offices that issue low cost financing for such initiatives
- Developers (both local and larger regional corporations)

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

E. Support transportation efficiency and access.

(1) What policies, strategies and projects are envisioned to strengthen the transportation network that affects the proposed SC Area? How will these initiatives support transportation choices (including walking, bicycling, bus or rail transit, and carpooling) or otherwise promote an efficient transportation network that integrates housing and transportation land uses? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County submits annual transportation network priorities to the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) that include replacement of the Thomas Johnson Bridge and the widening of MD 2/4 from Broomes Island Road to the northern boundary of the county and MD 231 to the western boundary. The bridge replacement and the widening of MD 2/4 and MD 231 will, per state standards, include pedestrian and bicycle access accommodations.

The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan (adopted 2004, amended 2010) includes a transportation section that includes objectives and actions. The County's Transportation Plan, adopted in 1997, is being updated. The master plans for the Town Centers include proposed transportation projects. The Chesapeake Beach's Comprehensive Plan 2010 Update includes transportation guiding principles, objectives, policies and actions in the plan's section on Development in Balance with the Pattern of the Town.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) If applicable, describe the SC Area's connection or proximity to transportation centers (e.g. Metro, MARC, and light rail stations) and describe opportunities for Transit - Oriented Development (TOD). Will Plan strategies and projects contribute to jobs/housing balance or otherwise provide a mix of land uses that can be expected to reduce reliance on single-occupancy automobiles? (If transit or TOD is not applicable in your community, all points in this section will be based on questions 1 and 3) (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Not applicable. Calvert County's SC Areas do not presently have either a connection or proximity to transportation centers. However, annual priorities to MDOT include commuter bus connections to the Suitland Metro Station. Transportation links to the Metro would allow commuters that presently rely on single occupancy vehicles to travel into Prince George's County and Washington, DC to take buses to the Metro to access further employment destinations. TOD within the SC Areas is not possible in the near future as population densities are not planned that would support such development.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) Which community groups or stakeholders will be key to the implementation of the initiatives and projects noted in this section? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

The key stakeholders in implementation include Maryland Department of Transportation (State Highway Administration and Maryland Transit Administration), Calvert County Government, and the municipalities of Chesapeake Beach and North Beach.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

F. Coordinating and Leveraging Policies and Investment

(1) What specific steps will the Sustainable Community Workgroup take to coordinate policies and funding streams to remove barriers to investment and maximize and increase funding in the proposed Sustainable Community Area? (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

- The specific task of the Workgroup is to identify State and Federal funding for the capital programs that would benefit the Sustainable Communities area. The only barrier to investment that has stalled funding of proposed projects is the continuing of the reduction in funding at the State and Federal level. This has either (1) bore the cost onto the County which then puts that project in direct competition for County funds against other important projects; (2) defers the project further out in future; or (3) cancels the projects. This has a direct effect on the County's ability to provide the needed infrastructure for growth and investment within the Sustainable Communities.
- The group will benefit from the various State designations already assigned to the Priority Funding Areas within Calvert County and its municipalities.
- The Sustainable Communities' Action Plan is completely consistent with the County's adopted Comprehensive Plan and Town Center Master Plans.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(2) How is the proposed Sustainable Community Plan consistent with other existing community or comprehensive plans? *(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

The Sustainable Community Action Plan is consistent with the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, the Town Center Master Plans, the Calvert County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan, and the Calvert County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

(3) How will the Plan help leverage and/or sustain more private sector investments? *(Answer Space 4,000 characters)*

As planned projects are completed and needed infrastructure improvements are addressed, Calvert County continues to progress towards being a more desirable Sustainable Community to live and work.

V. PROGRESS MEASURES

For the Plan parts of section IV (A through F):

(1) List the specific outcomes that the Plan seeks to produce. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

Calvert County

Education

- Calvert High School, Prince Frederick – Demolition of existing high school, including auditorium, cafeteria and gymnasium. Design and build a multi-story educational structure equipped with modern and state-of-the-art equipment, building systems, and infrastructure. The project will include new grandstand and stadium lighting.

Public Facilities

- Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons
 1. Renovate the auditorium, lobby, museum store and expand the mezzanine for additional educational space.
 2. The boat basin boardwalk timbers need to be replaced, including the marsh walk and under the Drum Point Lighthouse.
 3. Repair the original raised-seam metal roof, which was constructed in 1883, on the Drum Point Lighthouse.
 4. Drum Point Lighthouse bulkhead is in need of replacement.
- Detention Center, Barstow – The construction of a new 350 bed facility along with support and program spaces. The lower level of the current Work Release Facility will be renovated to accommodate additional office and inmate space.
- Stafford Road Waterline, Barstow – Extension of the waterline from the intersection of Hallowing Point Road and J.W. Williams Road along Stafford Road.
- Twin Beaches Branch Public Library, Town of Chesapeake Beach or North Beach – A new 15,000 square foot building located in either town (a site has not been determined).
- Southern Community Center / Southern Pines Senior Center, Lusby – Expand the existing space of these two public facilities due to the expanding senior population over the next 20 years and the need for more community programming for all ages.

Parks & Recreation

- Solomons Town Center Park, Solomons – Install energy efficient, dark sky friendly lighting on the multi-purpose fields.
- Beach Elementary Tennis Courts, Chesapeake Beach – Resurface and color coat two tennis courts.

Natural Resources

- Solomons Boat Ramp, Solomons – Both the ramps and boat piers require extensive work. At least one of the boat piers should be floating so that access to boats can be maintained regardless of the tide.

Public Works - Transportation

- Beacon Way Drainage Repair, Lusby – Repair and replacement of storm drainage facilities that routinely clog due to tidal action and have deteriorated due to excessive inundation.
 - Calvert Marine Museum Turning Lane, Solomons - Create a by-pass lane at Calvert Marine Museum by removing islands, adjusting sidewalks and relocating utilities as necessary from the museum entrance to Lore Road.
 - Dowell Road Widening, Solomons - This project will include wider travel lanes to accommodate "Share the Road" concept with bike riders, a two way center turn lane from H.G. Trueman Road to Anne Marie Gardens, drainage and safety improvements.
 - Little Cove Point Extended / Bunkhouse, Lusby - Roadway on Little Cove Point Road is only 18 feet in width, which is substandard for the estimated traffic that uses this roadway. The roadway should be improved to a minimum of 20 feet and preferably 22 feet in width.
 - Prince Frederick Loop Road, Prince Frederick – The completion of this project will eventually create a loop around the town center connecting businesses on either side of MD 2/4.
- (Please See Addendum)

V. PROGRESS MEASURES

(2) And, list the specific benchmarks that will be used to measure progress toward these outcomes. (Answer Space 4,000 characters)

All the projects listed above are components of the County's and Town's capital improvement plans.

The Calvert County Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a multi-year planning and budget process that assists the County in prioritizing current and future needs. The CIP has been developed to identify and adequately plan for future expansion, renovation, and construction. The goals of the plan are:

1. To build facilities required by the County's Comprehensive Plan;
2. To support the physical development objectives incorporated in approved County plans which support and augment the Comprehensive Plan;
3. To improve financial planning by comparing needs with available resources, identifying alternate revenue sources, and estimating future bond issues and debt services;
4. To establish priorities among projects so that staff effort and limited funds are used to the best advantage;
5. To coordinate the interactions of the various County departments with State and Federal agencies involved in implementing capital projects;
6. To provide an accurate, central source of information on all planned public construction for citizens, agencies, and interested organizations.

The first year of the plan, the capital budget is adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and funds are appropriated. The next 5-year period is used for planning purposes and is not authorized by the Commissioners until the annual budget for those years are legally adopted.

REPLACE THIS PAGE WITH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
RESOLUTIONS

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY APPLICATION
DISCLOSURE AUTHORIZATION AND CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned authorizes the Department of Housing and Community Development (the “Department”) to make such inquiries as necessary, including, but not limited to, credit inquiries, in order to verify the accuracy of the statements made by the applicant and to determine the creditworthiness of the applicant.

In accordance with Executive Order 01.01.1983.18, the Department advises you that certain personal information is necessary to determine your eligibility for financial assistance. Availability of this information for public inspection is governed by Maryland’s Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Section 10-611 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland (the “Act”). This information will be disclosed to appropriate staff of the Department or to public officials for purposes directly connected with administration of this financial assistance program for which its use is intended. Such information may be shared with State, federal or local government agencies, which have a financial role in the project. You have the right to inspect, amend, or correct personal records in accordance with the Act.

The Department intends to make available to the public certain information regarding projects recommended for funding in the Sustainable Community Plan. The information available to the public will include the information in this application, as may be supplemented or amended. This information may be confidential under the Act. If you consider this information confidential and do not want it made available to the public, please indicate that in writing and attach the same to this application.

You agree that not attaching an objection constitutes your consent to the information being made available to the public and a waiver of any rights you may have regarding this information under the Act.

I have read and understand the above paragraph. Applicant’s Initials: _____

Anyone who knowingly makes, or causes to be made, any false statement or report relative to this financial assistance application, for the purposes of influencing the action of the Department on such application, is subject to immediate cancellation of financial assistance and other penalties authorized by law.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the Sustainable Communities Plan or Project(s) proposed in this Application can be accomplished and further certifies that the information set herein and in any attachment in support hereof is true, correct, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Authorized Signature

Print Name and Title

Date